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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re Application of: B. D. Pietras

Serial No.: Unassigned

Filed: Herewith

For: Methods and Apparatus for Connecting Tubulars Using A

Top Drive

BOX PCT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Group Art Unit: Unknown

Examiner: Unknown

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING 37 C.F.R. 1.10

Inhereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited on 2001, with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail No. EL675048391US, in an envelope addressed to: BOX PCT, Assistant Commissioner for Paterlas Washington, D.C. 20231.

Date Signature

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the following claims:

Claim 2, line 1, please delete "or 2".

Claim 3, line 1, please delete "or 2".

Claim 5, line 1, please delete "claims 2 to 4" and insert -claim 2--.

Claim 6, line 1, please delete "claims 2 to 5", and insert --claim 2--.

Claim 7, line 1, please delete "any preceding claim", and insert -claim 1--.

Claim 9, line 1, please delete "any preceding claim" and insert -- claim 1--.

Claim 10, line 1, please delete "any preceding claim" and insert --claim 1--.

Claim 12, line 1, please delete "or 11" and insert.